

Lasker Against General Refund To Ship Buyers

Board No Santa Claus for People Who Bought at War-Time Prices, He Says After Hearing at Capital

Each Case on Its Merits

Individual Requests for Rebates To Be Taken Up Separately, Starting Now

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON. Nov. 9.—Unconvinced by the arguments presented at the special hearing of representatives of the forty-two original purchasers of government tonnage for financial relief, the United States Shipping Board to-day decided to take up each case individually and ascertain if some method cannot be found for reducing the outstanding obligations of the purchasers to the government.

After hearing extensive testimony from representatives of those who purchased Shipping Board vessels during 1919 and 1920 at approximately \$200 a ton urging rebates to the present value of \$30 to \$36 a ton, Chairman A. D. Lasker, of the board, and a committee of three trustees of the Emergency Fleet Corporation would give further consideration to the plans for relief made by the ship operators.

Hearings of individual appellants will be started November 21 by this committee. The claimants contended to buy the tonnage at the prevailing rates of trade in 1919-20 on the basis that the cost a ton would be proportionately lessened if the market value dropped.

Chairman Lasker replied that the board was legally without authority to give any relief and that a special act of Congress would be required to remedy the situation.

"We feel that nothing that has been presented here to-day would argue that the government could step in as a Santa Claus and relieve those adults who have made a bargain out of which they expected to make money," Chairman Lasker said. "If the board would give relief to one group, what is to be done in connection with another?"

Ship Owners Study Policies

Replies to the questionnaire sent out by the American Steamship Owners' Association were considered yesterday by the committee on national policies of the association. It was said that a large majority of answers had been received and that the sentiment of the shipping men was practically unanimous on the more important questions. A report is now being drafted, which will be sent to the Shipping Board and Congress.

Navy Orders

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON. Nov. 9.—No Navy orders issued to-day.

John C. H. to U. S. Arctic.
McCormack, Com. H. to Arctic Fleet. Ship, Com. E. to Alexandria. Gov. Com. H. to U. S. S. Robert Smith.

Hancock, Lt. Com. I. to U. S. S. Mullan.
Skilton, Lt. Com. R. H. to Pacific Fleet. Taylor, Lt. Com. W. D. to 3d Naval District.

Williams, Lt. Com. E. H. to U. S. S. Vassie-Bucher, Lt. C. E. to Engineer Squadron.

Burke, Lt. J. E. to U. S. S. Fulton. Hough, Lt. W. C. to Squadron 2d. Littlefield, Lt. G. O. to U. S. S. Shawmut. Moore, Lt. G. E. to U. S. S. Shawmut. Shackleton, Lt. C. B. to U. S. S. Shawmut.

Squier, Lt. A. E. to U. S. S. Arkansas.

Clyburn, Lt. E. to U. S. S. Corry. Clegg, Lt. E. to U. S. S. Peary. Nelson, Lt. R. F. to U. S. S. Barry.

Ostie, Lt. R. A. to Pensacola. Smith, Lt. M. T. to Pensacola.

Short, Lt. G. E. to Pensacola.

Conrad, En. E. to U. S. Arctic.

McKinnon, Lt. G. E. to U. S. S. Huron.

Carmody, Lt. G. E. to U. S. New Orleans.

Kessell, Lt. G. E. to U. S. S. Abarenda.

Ward, Lt. G. E. to U. S. S. Huron.

Root, Com. E. S. to U. S. S. Panther.

Astrand, Lt. A. N. to U. S. S. Abarenda.

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Carroll, Lt. G. E. to U. S. S. Huron.

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